

25. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:  
a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon,  
said computer readable program code means comprising:  
5 a step to provide a set of sequences, wherein the sequences are not aligned;  
a step to discover a plurality of patterns common to a plurality of the sequences; and  
a step to determine if a candidate sequence comprises a predetermined number of the  
patterns.

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the step of if there are no patterns common to the predetermined threshold of sequences, decreasing the predetermined threshold.

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19. (Canceled)

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22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) A system comprising:

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a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement

said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:

provide a set of sequences, wherein the sequences are not aligned;

discover a plurality of patterns common to a plurality of the sequences; and

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determine if a candidate sequence comprises a predetermined number of the patterns.

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24. (Canceled)